

1. Apparatus for freeing a fishing lure and hook from obstructions comprising
in combination:

a sleeve;

a slit in the sleeve for receiving a fishing line secured to the lure:

a plurality of chain elements secured to the sleeve including a plurality of links,
and each link includes a barb; and

a line secured to the sleeve for lowering the sleeve on the fishing line and its chain
elements to free the lure from obstructions.

Please cancel claims 2 and 3.

Please add the following independent claim 11 and dependent claims 12-16.

11. Apparatus for freeing a fishing lure and hook from obstructions comprising in combination:

- a sleeve;
- a slit in the sleeve for receiving a fishing line having a snagged lure and hook;
- a line secured to the sleeve for lowering the sleeve on the fishing line;
- a plurality of chain elements secured to the sleeve remote from where the line is secured to the sleeve; and
- a plurality of barbs on the plurality of chain elements.

12. The apparatus of claim 11 in which the plurality of chain elements comprise a plurality of chains, and each chain includes a plurality of chain links.

13. The apparatus of claim 12 in which each link of the plurality of chain links includes a barb.

14. The apparatus of claim 13 in which the slit extends diagonally on the sleeve.

15. The apparatus of claim 13 in which the slit extends axially along the sleeve.